

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 13940 131156Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02
SIL-01 OPIC-03 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ARA-11
EA-10 /144 W
-----107995 131200Z /43

P R 131113Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3948
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13940

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, UNCTAD, IN
SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMODITIES: TEA

REF: COLOMBO 4001

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON P.K. KAUL, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, SEPTEMBER 12 TO OBTAIN HIS VIEWS ON
COLOMBO TEA PRODUCERS' MEETING AND PROSPECTS FOR FORTHCOMING
UNCTAD MEETING. KAUL HEADED INDIAN DELEGATION TO COLOMBO AND
WILL LIKEWISE LEAD INDIAN DEL TO "EXPERTS GROUP".

2. KAUL PROVED UNWILLING TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF TEA BUFFER
STOCKING AND OF A TEA AGREEMENT. TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TECH-
NICAL ASPECTS OF STORING TEA AND THE ATTITUDES OF THE AFRICAN
PRODUCERS, HIS REPOSE WAS THAT PRODUCERS WERE AGREED ON THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 13940 131156Z

DESIRABILITY OF A TEA COMMODITY AGREEMENT AND THAT PRINCIPAL
STUMBLING BLOCK TO BE OVERCOME AT THE UNCTAD MEETING WAS THE
DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AMONG THE CONSUMERS, MOST PARTICULARLY THE
UNCERTAINTY OF THE US POSITION. HE SAID HIS AND OTHER DELE-
GATIONS HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTED WITH THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE
US DELEGATION TO THE JANUARY 1978 UNCTAD MEETING IN GOING BACK
ON WHAT KAUL CONSIDERED THE CONSENSUS REACHED EARLIER AT THE

FAO TO PROCEED WITH THE ATTEMPT TO ELABORATE A WORKABLE AGREEMENT. WITH REGARD TO THE POSITION OF THE EUROPEAN CONSUMERS, HE NOTED THAT THE BRITISH HAD BEEN WORKING ON THE TEA ISSUE FOR MANY YEARS, BUT AT GENEVA THEY HAD STEPPED BACK CLAIMING THAT THE EC REPRESENTATIVES SPOKE FOR THEM.

3. EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT IT MIGHT BE UNREASONABLE TO INSIST THAT THE US COMMIT ITSELF TO A TEA AGREEMENT AT GENEVA SINCE IT WILL BE THE FIRST MULTILATERAL DISCUSSION OF THE FAO-UNCTAD REPORT AND IS BILLED AS AN EXPERTS GROUP. KAUL WAS UNSWAYED (IT WAS AT THIS POINT THAT EMBOFF ELICITED THAT HE WOULD REPRESENT GOI HIMSELF) AND COMMENTED THAT MEETING WOULD PROVE FRUITLESS IF "ALL WE'RE GOING TO DO IS PLAY DUCKS AND DRAKES."

4. COMMENT: CONSIDERING THE WELL-KNOWN DIFFICULTIES OF ACHIEVING A COMMODITY AGREEMENT IN TEA, WE ARE SURPRISED BY THE VIGOR OF KAUL'S VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE US POSITION. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN AN ELEMENT OF THEATER IN KAUL'S INSISTENCE, BUT IF INDIA HAS SNIFFED THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT BENEFITTING ITS MOST IMPORTANT EXPORT COMMODITY, IT CAN BE EXPECTED TO PURSUE IT WITH TENACITY. GOHEEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMODITIES, TEA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE13940
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780372-0248
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780972/aaaachgj.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 58065851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 COLOMBO 4001
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1453616
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNCTAD COMMODITIES: TEA
TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, IN, UNCTAD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/58065851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014